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Serial No. 09/664,460 Art Unit No. 2684

I MEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING TRANSMITTED VIA FAX TO EXAMINER S. SHARMA AI (571) 273-8300 On August 6, 2005 PERSON TRANSMITTING: ANNE VACHON DONGHERTY

Signature & Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of : August 6, 2005

R. E. Chapman, Jr., et al : Group Art No.: 2684

Serial No. 09/664,460 : Examiner: S. R. Sharma

Filed: September 18. 2000 : IBM Corporation

Title: TELEPHONE NETWORK 3173 Cedar Road
NODE DEVICE Yorktown Heights,

New York 10598-1964

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 9, 2005 for the above-identified patent application, the Applicants submit the following:

Amendments to the Claims as reflected in the Listing of Claims beginning on page 2.

Remarks/Arguments which begin on page 10.

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PTO/SB/06 (08-03) Approved for use through 7/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

flection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

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*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35-U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer. U.S. Patent encounting garnering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USP 10. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any committees on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.